

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 25 February 2021 Issued by: Human Rights Commission Contact: Shari Welcome, Public Relations and Education Coordinator (Email: <u>shari.welcome@gov.ky</u>; <u>info@humanrightscommission.ky</u>; Tel: 244-3670)

HRC Statement on concern for Quarantined Electors voting opportunity

The Human Rights Commission is aware of the concern which has been publicly raised with regards to quarantined individuals who remain in mandatory isolation as part of the COVID-19 protocols potentially being disenfranchised of their right to vote.

The right to vote is widely recognised as a fundamental human right and indeed is enshrined in [section 92] of the Cayman Islands Constitution. There is therefore no justification or legal basis for disenfranchising such individuals. The Commission is in communication with the Elections Office and understands that the Elections Office is working expediently to resolve this situation. The Commission fully supports the Elections Office in its efforts and calls on the Cayman Islands Government to ensure that such resolution is implemented without delay to ensure that all registered voters, including those in quarantine, are provided with a means to exercise their right to vote.

Ends.